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taste, and the names which grate harshly upon the ears of Mr. Field may sound more sweetly to his fellow-citizens than those which he proposes.

It would seem that the single fact that the people of North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, and New Mexico are steadfastly opposed to any change in the names of their commonwealths would be sufficient to overbalance all of the sentimental arguments which have been urged in favor of the changes. The inhabitants of these Territories, taken altogether, number not less than twelve hundred thousand people, and their wishes on this subject have repeatedly been expressed in the most unmistakable manner. These wishes are certainly worthy of consideration. They are based upon reasons both practical and sentimental. The names now held by the Territories are interwoven with their business and social life so completely that they can never be eradicated. Banks, newspapers, manufactories, bear the names of Dakota, Washington, and New Mexico. They are trade-marks possessed of no small commercial value. But this is the least of the reasons for the opposition of the people of the Territories to the proposed change of names. The Territory of New Mexico was organized thirty-nine years ago. Washington was organized thirty-six years ago. Dakota was organized twenty-eight years ago. Children born in the Territories bearing those names have grown to manhood and womanhood, loving the commonwealths of their nativity, honoring and cherishing their names. Is it strange that these men and women should resent any attempt to obliterate the names which they have so long cherished, and to place in their stead names around which cluster no memories, names which stand for no associations? "Why," said a native of Washington Territory, "if the name of Washington was changed, I should feel as if my father's name had been taken from me. I should be like a man without a country." If the native of Massachusetts, of Connecticut, or of New York would understand this feeling, let him imagine the name of his State erased from the map and a word substituted which meant nothing to himself or to anybody else. The pride of the people of the Territories in their history and achievements is every whit as strong as that of the people of the older commonwealths, and it is not strange that they protest against the substitution of new names for the ones which their Territories have borne for so many years. Imagine the storm of indignation that would be called forth by a proposition to change the name of the State of Webster, of Clay, or of Lincoln.

The States of the Union should assuredly bear appropriate and pleasing names; but the time to bestow them is when the Territories are organized, not when the States are admitted and after names previously given have become endeared to the people.

FREDERIC JAMES GRANT.

IV.

IMPOSSIBLE PRESIDENTS.

It is apparent—to any one accustomed to inductive reasoning and capable of generalization—that no one will hereafter be elected President who has not been elected by the time he is sixty.

It is now a hundred years since Washington, at the age of fifty-seven was chosen. Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and J. Q. Adams were each elected at that same age.

Of the twenty-three Presidents, only three were elected after the age of sixty-one. Of these three, two were military men who died soon after inauguration, and the other was James Buchanan.

Eighteen of the twenty-three were elected before the age of 60, one at 50, and seven while in the forties. General Grant was 46; Mr. Cleveland, 47; and General Harrison, 55.

Unwritten law which has been solidified by time and approved by experience is most difficult of repeal! It is founded on reason. Many an aspiring statesman will beat, with bruised hands, against this law, but it will stand; and it will be as difficult for one who has passed sixty to reach the Presidency "as for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of Heaven."

S. J. WILKES.